

REMARKS

The applicant has carefully considered the Office action dated November 30, 2006. In view of the following, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Office action identifies two patently distinct inventions, namely, the invention of claims 1-61 (Group I), and the invention of claims 62-64 (Group II). Applicant hereby elects Group I (i.e., claims 1-61) for further prosecution in this case without traverse.

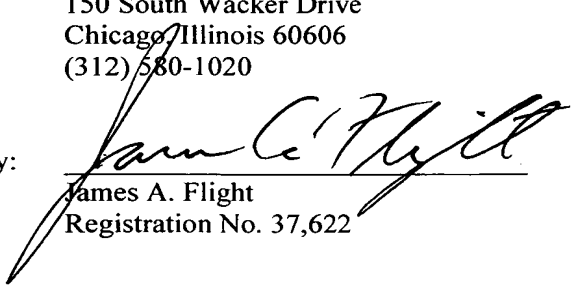
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner is of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number identified below.

Respectfully submitted,

HANLEY, FLIGHT & ZIMMERMAN, LLC.
Suite 2100
150 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 580-1020

By:


James A. Flight
Registration No. 37,622

December 11, 2006